

Experiment Station Building and Greenhouses

Herrick Archives Number H 116

A. IDENTIFICATION & LOCATION

1. Name

1.1 Buildings were never officially named by Board of Trustees.

1.2 Alternate names noted:

Horticulture and Forestry Building, Old

Horticulture and Forestry Building, First

Station Building

Horticultural Hall

Horticultural Building

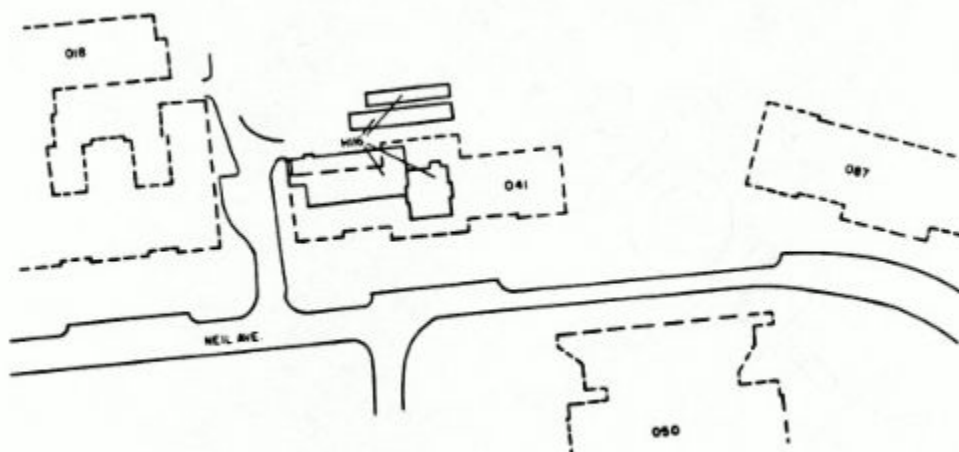
Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station

Agricultural Experiment Station

See Addenda No. 1, 2, 3

2. Location

2.1 Located at site of present Lazenby Hall, 1827 Neil Avenue, See map below.



For identification of other buildings shown, see Appendix A.

3. General Description

3.1 Type Of construction:

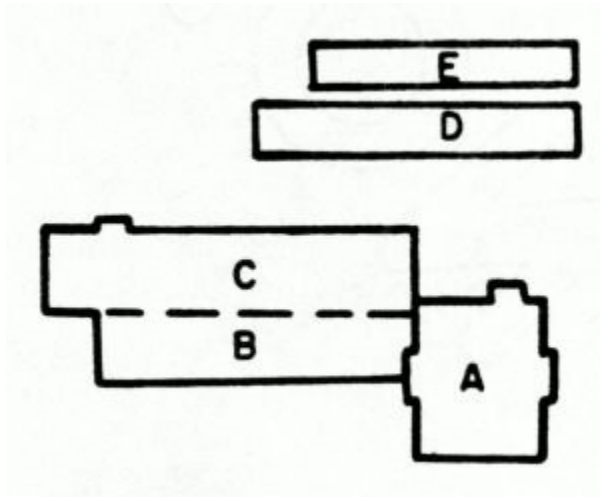
Wood interior and brick exterior, except greenhouses, which were wood and glass (McC 1:8A)

3.2 No. of stories:

Photograph in McCracken (1:83) shows basement and three stories, except greenhouses were one story only.

3.3 Increments of construction:

No additions to main building. Greenhouses constructed in at least two stages. See sketch.



A - Brick office building

B - E - Greenhouses

3.3.1 Item 5 In Section B of this report would indicate that the first greenhouses were constructed after May 3, 1889. McCracken (1:83) states that the main building and two greenhouses were constructed in the Summer of 1888. While his date appears to be incorrect, one can infer from his report that two greenhouses (B & C) were constructed at the same time.

3.3.2 Greenhouses D & E appear for the first time on a June 30, 1899 map at the end of McCracken's first volume. Whether they were both added at the same time has not been determined.

3.4 Size of building:

3.4.1 McCracken (1:8A) gives 4900 square feet and 177,400 cubic feet as the size of the main building (A in sketch). At page 83 in Volume 1 McCracken states that the building was approximately 40 x 48 feet. The Seventh Annual Report of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station for 1888, at page 8, states that the building was 39 x 45 feet.

3.4.2 Greenhouse sizes as scaled on map 190-09 were approximately as follows:

B - 94' x 22' - 2068 sq. ft.

C - 112 x 22' - 2464 sq. ft.

D - 94' x 14' - 1316 sq. ft.

E - 78' x 12' - 936 sq. ft.

Total 6784 sq.ft.

3.4.3 The Annual Report for 1892-93 (p. 80) says the first two greenhouses (B & C) were each 20' x 100'.

B. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION - ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION

Note:

This building was planned and built by the Board of Control of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, which was then located on the Ohio State University campus.

Information given is from Board of Control minutes unless otherwise indicated.

1. On April 3, 1888 the Board of Control approved the plans and related documents prepared by Elan Terrell and Company and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors.
2. Bids were received on May 8, 1888. All bids were rejected.
3. On June 6, 1888 new bids were tabulated and the Board of Control awarded contracts to the following contractors:

Carpenter work:	A. Houpt
Brickwork:	H. Schneider
Roofing:	Reichenbach Brothers
Plastering:	O. B. Thompson

4. Bids for heating were presented to the Board of Control by the architect on May 3, 1889. No record of award of contracts has been found, but the Eighth Annual Report of the Board of Control (1889) reported the expenditure of funds for heating the building (p. viii).
5. No record of bids or contracts for the greenhouses have been found. The Director reported at the October 31, 1888 meeting that there was no money for greenhouses. The May 3, 1889 minutes indicate that bids for glass, lumber, and carpentry had been received, but were too high. The Director was at that time instructed to build the necessary stone wall for the greenhouses without advertising.
6. Completion and occupancy:

6.1 The Seventh Annual Report of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station for 1888 stated that the building had been erected and furnished as far as funds permit (p.8). This is consistent with McCracken's statement (1:83) that the building was erected in the summer of 1888. It appears, however, that the heating work was not done until the following year. See Item 4 above. Also, the furniture for the office was not purchased until the summer of 1889, according to the minutes of the October 17, 1889 meeting.

6.2 McCracken (1:83) states that two greenhouses were erected in the summer of 1888. However, Item 5 above would indicate that they were not started until 1889.

The 1888 annual report stated on page 8 that it is proposed to attach to the office building two greenhouses, one 96 feet long and the other 112 feet long.

A year later, at p.viii in the 1889 report, it is stated "a greenhouse" had been erected.

The 1890 report, at p. xi, lists an expenditure of \$1,245.87 for greenhouses in the year ending June 30, 1890.

Thus, it would appear that the first two greenhouses (B & C) were started in 1889 and completed in 1890.

C. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION — ADDITION

1. No record has been found of the construction of the other two greenhouses (D & E). They do not appear in photograph X 7147, which was taken when Townshend Hall (O87) was under construction and the framework has reached the top of the first floor. Construction of Townshend began about the middle of September 1896 (Cope: 532) and proceeded slowly. The Board of Trustees took over the work from the contractor on May 5, 1897, and the building was ready for service on January 1, 1898 (McC 1:144). This puts the date of Photograph X 7147 at 1897, and leads to the conclusion that greenhouses D & E were not constructed before 1897.

Houses D & E appear on a map of the campus as of June 30, 1899, which appears at the back of McCracken's first volume.

Thus it would appear that D & E were constructed no earlier than 1897 and no later than 1899.

See Addendum No. 2, 3

D. COST

1. McCracken (1:8A) lists the cost at \$7,500, and the same figure is carried in Business Office reports (B).
2. A handwritten notation in the Cope papers in the University Archives gives \$6,724.50 as the cost of the office building.

E. DEMOLITION

1. McCracken (2:284) lists the building as still standing on June 30, 1913. Later (4:14A) he gives 1913 as the date of demolition.
2. The specifications for the new Horticulture and Forestry Building, now Lazenby Hall (041), state that the University will remove the greenhouses and the contractor will remove the brick building. Contracts for Building 041 were awarded on August 6, 1913.
3. Thus it would appear that demolition occurred during the late summer or autumn of 1913.

F. PHOTOGRAPHS

1. In Photoarchives: X 7621, X 7147
2. Other: McC 1:83, L: September 27, 1889

G. MISCELLANEOUS

The minutes and annual reports of the Board of Control of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station used in the preparation of this report are housed in the library of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center at Wooster.

The Experiment Station moved to Wooster in the spring and summer of 1892, and the building and greenhouses were assigned to the Department of Horticulture (McC 1:83).

John H. Herrick
December 12, 1978

ADDENDUM NO. 1

The Lantern on May 29, 1895 refers to the main building as the "Agricultural Building."

John H. Herrick
May 18, 1979

ADDENDUM NO. 2

Inspection of old campus maps reveals the following additional names for this building:

Agriculture Hall
Horticulture Building
Experiment Station Office
Horticulture Building, First

John H. Herrick
November 13, 1979

ADDENDUM NO. 3

The following additional name for this building has been found on old campus maps:

Horticultural Hall & Greenhouses

Greenhouses D & E shown on Map 189-05 dated 1897.

John H. Herrick
September 21, 1981